GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4067
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2002
SAFETY FUND
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Railway has accorded top priority to passenger safety;

(b) If so, the amount spent by the Government on the passengers safety during the current fiscal year;

(c) Whether this amount has been spent from Rs.17000 crore non-lapseable safety fund set up by the Government;

(d) If so, the total amount spent so far from the said fund; and

(e) The period fixed for utilisation of said safety fund?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) to (e) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PART (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4067 BY SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARAD BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 18-4-2002 REGARDING SAFETY FUND.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Allocation for safety works is made under various planheads, which include upgradation and renewal of Signalling and Telecommunication assets, Track, Bridges, Rolling Stock, maintenance facilities, Road Safety Works - Level Crossings and Road Safety Works - Road Over/Under Bridge etc.. The expenditure covers safety works related to both Passenger and Goods operation and no separate accountal is kept. In the current fiscal year 2002-03, a sum of Rs. 5304.72 crore (excluding market borrowings) has been allotted for various safety works.

(c) to (e): Government has set up a non-lapsable Special Railway Safety Fund (SRSF) of Rs.17000 crores, during the year 2001-02, to wipe out arrears in renewal of over-aged assets within a fixed timeframe of 6 years i.e. by the year 2006-07. Out of this, Rs.1400 Crores were allotted during 2001-02. The approximate expenditure from SRSF, in the fiscal year 2001-02 (upto January 2002) has been about Rs. 950 crores. During 2002-03, an amount of Rs.2210 crores has been allotted out of the SRSF.